

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-3, 5 and 7, without prejudice, and add new claims 9-19, as shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of reducing the frequency of industrial accidents comprising the steps of:

determining the mental state of an individual at the time of an accident or close call;
classifying the cause of the accident as being due to the individual being in one of four hazardous mental states;
identifying ~~the~~ a state-to-error risk pattern; and
teaching the individual to effect critical error reduction techniques, to avoid future occurrences of accidents.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of teaching comprises ~~the step of:~~ ~~a step selected from the group consisting of:~~

teaching the individual to "self trigger" on entering a hazardous state before making the error again in the future;

~~teaching the individual to analyse close calls and small errors, learning from them, to reduce the likelihood of major accidents occurring;~~

~~teaching the individual to observing others for patterns which increase risk; or~~

~~teaching the individual to work on improving their good habits.~~

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Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of classifying comprises a step selected from the group consisting of:

classifying the individual to be in a mental state of "rushing";
classifying the individual to be in a mental state of "frustration";
classifying the individual to be in a mental state of "fatigue"; or
classifying the individual to be in a mental state of "complacency".

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of identifying comprises a step selected from the group consisting of:

identifying a critical behaviour of "eyes not on task";
identifying a critical behaviour of "mind not on task";
identifying a critical behaviour of "(moving into or being in) the line-of-fire"; or
identifying a critical behaviour of "somehow losing your balance, traction or grip".

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of: teaching the individual to perform the analysis steps of claim 1 when they have in response to the occurrence of smaller incidents.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of: instructing the individual to look for state-to-error risk patterns in the actions of others.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A form for use in accident investigation comprising:

a first field for entering a description of an accident;
text identifying the four possible mental states of an individual involved in said accident;
a second field for identifying the mental state of said individual;
text identifying the four state-to-error risk patterns; and

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a third field for identifying the state-to-error risk pattern which resulted in the accident incident occurring; and

text identifying critical error reduction techniques which might reduce the likelihood of the accident incident occurring again.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method of training individuals to avoid accidents, comprising the steps of:

teaching said individual to:

determine their own mental state at the time of an accident or close call; classify the cause of said accident or close call as their being in one of four hazardous mental states;

identify the a state-to-error risk pattern which caused said accident or close call; and effect critical error reduction techniques, to avoid future occurrences of accidents or close calls.

Claim 9 (new): A method of training individuals to avoid accidents comprising the steps of:

providing a form for use in accident investigation comprising:

a first field for entering a description of an accident;

text identifying the four possible mental states of an individual involved in said accident;

a second field for identifying the mental state of said individual;

text identifying four state-to-error risk patterns;

a third field for identifying the state-to-error risk pattern which resulted in the incident occurring; and

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text identifying critical error reduction techniques which might reduce the likelihood of the incident occurring again.

In response to the occurrence of an accident or close call:

- determining the mental state of an individual at the time of an accident or close call;
- classifying the cause of the accident or close call as being due to the individual being in one of four hazardous mental states;
- identifying a state-to-error risk pattern which ties said hazardous mental states to the accident or close call; and
- identifying critical error reduction techniques associated with the identified state-to-error risk pattern, to the individual, to avoid future occurrences of accidents.

Claim 10 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of teaching comprises the step of teaching the individual to analyze close calls and small errors, learning from them, to reduce the likelihood of major accidents occurring.

Claim 11 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of teaching comprises the step of teaching the individual to observe others for patterns which increase risk.

Claim 12 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of teaching comprises the step of teaching the individual to work on improving their good habits.

Claim 13 (new): The method of claim 9, wherein said step of identifying critical error reduction techniques comprises the step of instructing the individual to "self trigger" on entering a hazardous state before making the error again in the future.

Claim 14 (new): The method of claim 9, wherein said step of identifying critical error reduction techniques comprises the step of instructing the individual to analyze close calls and small errors, learning from them, to reduce the likelihood of major accidents occurring.

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Claim 15 (new): The method of claim 9, wherein said step of identifying critical error reduction techniques comprises the step of instructing the individual to observe others for patterns which increase risk.

Claim 16 (new): The method of claim 9, wherein said step of identifying critical error reduction techniques comprises the step of instructing the individual to work on improving their good habits.

Claim 17 (new): The method of claim 9, wherein said step of classifying comprises a step selected from the group consisting of:

- classifying the individual to be in a mental state of “rushing”;
- classifying the individual to be in a mental state of “frustration”;
- classifying the individual to be in a mental state of “fatigue”; or
- classifying the individual to be in a mental state of “complacency”.

Claim 18 (new): The method of claim 9, wherein said step of identifying a state-to-error risk pattern comprises a step selected from the group consisting of:

- identifying a critical behaviour of “eyes not on task”;
- identifying a critical behaviour of “mind not on task”;
- identifying a critical behaviour of “(moving into or being in) the line-of-fire”; or
- identifying a critical behaviour of “somehow losing your balance, traction or grip”.

Claim 19 (new): The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

instructing the individual to perform the steps of claim 9 in response to the occurrence of smaller incidents.

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